

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) A mounting and dismounting mechanism for a straightening or calibrating roller having a circular groove, the mechanism comprising a spindle, the spindle having a largest diameter portion, a large diameter portion, and a reduced diameter spindle extension and a collar formed between the largest diameter portion and the large diameter portion, the roller being adapted to be mountable and clampable around the spindle to abut against said collar, and to be dismountable and removable from around the spindle co-directionally with a longitudinal axis (A) of the spindle and, the reduced diameter spindle extension providing the roller a preliminary alignment and for guiding the roller smoothly around the spindle, the spindle having a wall with an outer surface and a cylindrical cavity, the wall provided with at least one opening, at least one holder element being adapted to move within the cylindrical cavity between clamping and release positions thereof, respectively protruding through the at least one opening to protrude from the outer surface of the spindle to retain a roller to the spindle and not protruding from the outer surface of the spindle, a pusher adapted to be movably located within the cylindrical cavity and being movable between clamping and release positions thereof, the pusher being formed with a thrust face to engage the holder element, and a biasing means biasing the pusher to shift from its release position to its clamping position whereby the thrust face of the pusher moves the at least one holder element from its release position to its clamping position protruding from the outer surface of the spindle to retain a roller to the spindle, and a plunger affixed to the pusher, whereby the pusher is movable against the force of the biasing means from its clamping position to its release position, the at least one holder element being thus capable of shifting from its clamping position to its release position.

2. (previously presented) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 wherein the pusher has its clamping position and release position axially spaced from each other, and the thrust face is at an acute angle relative to the longitudinal axis of the spindle.

3. (previously presented) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 wherein the spindle comprises a stationary spindle and the roller is provided with a bearing having an inner diameter.

4. (previously presented) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 wherein the spindle comprises a rotatably pivoted spindle.

5. (canceled)
6. (previously presented) A mechanism as set forth in claim 3 wherein the plunger comprises a push rod, extending from the cavity and having its end provided with an extension having a diameter which is smaller than the inner diameter of the bearing.
7. (previously presented) A mechanism as set forth in claim 2 wherein the acute angle between the thrust face and the longitudinal axis (A) increases towards the distal end of the pusher, and the thrust face section has a smaller angle and bears against the at least one holder element in the clamping position of the at least one holder element.
8. (previously presented) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 wherein the at least one holder element comprises a ball.
9. (previously presented) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 wherein the at least one holder element comprises three holder elements and the at least one opening in the wall of the cavity comprises three openings spaced from each other by an angular distance.
10. (previously presented) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 wherein the biasing means comprises a mechanical spring, a section of its length being fitted in a cavity established within the pusher.
11. (previously presented) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 wherein the cavity is cylindrical and the pusher comprises a cylindrical piston element.
12. (previously presented) A mechanism as set forth in claim 3 wherein none of its components need be removed from the mechanism to replace the roller and the bearing.